

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 – 11, and 13 – 14 are currently pending in this application. By the foregoing amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to correct a minor spelling error unrelated to patentability or claim scope, and Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 12. Claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice.

Telephonic Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended towards Applicants' representative during the July 27, 2011 telephone interview. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the amendment to claim 1 placed claims 1 and 4 – 10 in condition for allowance. The Examiner also proposed adding the limitations of claims 12 or 13 into claim 11 in order to place the application in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 1 and 4 – 10 are allowed, and that claims 12 – 14 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim Objections

The Action indicates Claims 12 – 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As discussed below, claim 11 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 12 and should now be allowable over the references of record. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 13 and 14 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Felt (US 3,420,032).

Claim 11 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 12 and currently recites “a pair of longitudinally extending edges on opposite sides of the elongate sleeve each provided with a flange arranged so as to extend outwardly from the pole.” Claim 11 should now be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone

Applicant: Knight et al.
Application No.: 10/585,829

interview will help advance prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including all of the pending claims, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Knight et al.

By /Linda X. Shi/
Linda X. Shi
Registration No. 64,800

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.
United Plaza
30 South 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-4009
Telephone: (215) 568-6400
Facsimile: (215) 568-6499

SBS/LXS/JNM/lat